Michigan State University Faculty Senate Draft Divestment Resolution

Whereas, on January 26, 2024, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) <u>found</u> it plausible that the state of Israel has committed acts of genocide in the Gaza Strip, ordering Israel to prevent all future acts that fall under <u>Article II of the Genocide Convention</u>; prevent and punish incitement to genocide; and allow the provision of basic services and humanitarian aid to Gaza's besieged population; and,

Whereas, on January 31, 2024, U.S. Federal Court <u>concurred</u> with the ICJ finding that "the current treatment of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip by the Israeli military may plausibly constitute a genocide" and asserted that "[i]t is every individual's obligation to confront the current siege in Gaza"; and,

Whereas, during the week following the ICJ's order, Israel's military killed some <u>1,100 people</u> in Gaza, raising the number of killed to at least <u>27,000 people</u>, including a staggering <u>11,500 children</u>; and,

Whereas, since the ICJ issued its order, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reports that Israel has fired upon a humanitarian aid convey, continued to obstruct most food aid missions to the population, and destroyed numerous residential areas throughout the Gaza Strip; and,

Whereas, Human Rights Watch <u>reports</u> that the state of Israel is using starvation of the civilian population as a weapon of war, resulting in more than <u>a quarter of Gazans experiencing starvation</u> as famine conditions spread throughout the Gaza Strip; and,

Whereas, since the ICJ recognized a serious and immediate risk of genocide, the U.S. has had the <u>obligation</u> under international law to prevent and refrain from funding, aiding, and abetting Israel's plausible acts of genocide in the Gaza Strip; and,

Whereas, the Biden administration has supported plausible acts of genocidal in the Gaza Strip, giving Israel billions of taxpayers' dollars in military aid, in violation of the Leahy Law, and bypassing Congress with emergency weapons sales to Israel; and,

Whereas, days after the ICJ's order, the U.S. <u>suspended funding</u> to the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the single most important humanitarian mission in the Gaza Strip, serving <u>1.7 million</u> <u>internally displaced people</u> who face increasingly dire conditions; and,

Whereas, on February 15, 2024, the Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) passed <u>Bill No. 60-65</u> calling for the MSU Board of Trustees to divest from weapons manufacturers alongside other entities complicit in genocide; and,

Whereas, MSU has acted in the past to condemn international human rights abuses with the historic <u>Board of Trustees vote</u> on March 31, 1978 to divest the University's holdings from U.S. corporations with ties to Apartheid South Africa; therefore be it,

Resolved, that MSU's Faculty Senate calls on the University to divest from all financial holdings that support and profit from Israel's military campaign and plausible acts of genocide in the Gaza Strip.